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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 19 | Humidity 73% Clear with periodic clouds Sensex 59,842 | Nifty 17,825 | Gold 51,848 | Silver 57,746 | Dollar 79.31 | Euro 80.62 | GBP 95.81

BBMP to provide facelift to unscientific, unpainted speed breakers without signage, dangerous for unwary motorists, especially two-wheeler riders

RUMBLE TRIPS

Project at an estimated cost of Rs 320.68 lakh

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KAUSHIK JN

In Bengaluru, motorists fear speed breakers. Some of these are constructed unscientifically and left unpainted. Some don't even have sign boards to warn approaching vehicles.

The good news, however, is, at long last, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's traffic engineering cell has decided to paint all such road humps. The civic body shall provide thermoplastic painting for rumble strips as well.

The traffic engineering cell floated a tender inviting bidders to provide thermoplastic painting for rumble strips, painting existing humps, junction markings, kerb and median paintings and other allied road safety provisions as per the Bengaluru Traffic Police requirements on arterial and sub-arterial roads in BBMP limits at an estimated cost of Rs 320.68 lakh. The last date of bid submission is August 23.

Road humps help reduce vehicle speed, and thereby the number and severity of road accidents. However, speed breakers, especially those constructed unscientifically, unpainted or without signage, prove dangerous for unwary motorists, especially two-wheeler riders.

There are hundreds of unscientific speed breakers at different locations across the city; it is the responsibility of the BBMP to remove such illegal road humps but they remain intact causing immense inconvenience to motorists.

> **"Unscientific humps are put up by educational institutions and politicians. We want to paint them to alert motorists...**
>
> – Balakrishna Shetty, executive engineer, BBMP (road infrastructure)

"There are many unscientific humps put up by educational institutions and politicians. We want to paint such humps to caution unwary motorists," said Balakrishna Shetty, executive engineer, BBMP (road infrastructure), traffic engineering cell.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

Access for all still a dream

Why most of Bengaluru's civic infra are obstacles for differently abled

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BMTC on Sunday launched the first batch of 75 ramp-accessible low-floor buses that are disabled-friendly. However, most of Bengaluru's infrastructure still waylay the differently abled.

Janaki Vishwanath, founder and director of Antharbhaava, a city based non-profit that works for people with disabilities told BM that Bengaluru is nowhere near being disabled-friendly: "When we talk about disabilities, we often think only about people in wheelchairs or with physical disabilities. There are people with intellectual disabilities too. For them, it has become a nuisance as everything in the city keeps changing. There are no proper information boards or a tracking system for buses, routes keep changing and so on. They are not able to catch up."

Vishwanath added that roads and footpaths are in very bad condition: "Urban infrastructure and public transport are not even able-friendly. I am a senior citizen; it is very hard for me to navigate the roads sometimes because the roads are in such a bad condition. Every week there is some new government agency digging up roads."

She further noted that even though in several parking lots, there is a reserved spot

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Monsoon music

Banyan Tree is back with its annual Monsoon Music festival Barkha Ritu -- now in its 21st year. This thematic festival is one of the most appreciated and sought-after festivals that has featured almost all the classical music maestros of India. This year, Barkha Ritu in Bengaluru will feature: Shounak Abhisheki with Anand Bhate (Vocal) and Ustad Shujaat Khan (Sitar).
W Where: Chowdiah Memorial Hall
When: August 21, 6:00 pm onwards
Tickets: bookmyshow.com

02 Detox your way!

Angadi Heritage and Ananda in the Himalayas (A destination spa) has an interesting event lined up for all looking for ways to detox. All you have to do is turn up at Angadi Heritage, for a conversation and consultation on holistic healing by Ananda. The talk on wellness will be followed by breakfast. **Where: Angadi Heritage, Terrace Garden, Jayanagar 1st Block**
When: August 26, 10 am - 11 am
Contact: 9606593297

03 Wine and paint

Did you know Van Gogh got drunk when he painted? You can also channel the inner artist in you as Smoke House Deli, Indiranagar, is hosting a one-of-a-kind workshop called 'Sip & Paint' in collaboration with Chill Sesh. You will learn how to create an artistic masterpiece and get professional at making delicious cocktails taught by an expert mixologist. Everything necessary for fun will be provided including paints, brushes, and canvas. **Where: Smoke House Deli, Indiranagar; When: August 20, 11 am - 2 pm**
Tickets: https://insider.in/chill-sesh-sip-paint-bengaluru-aug20-2022/event

What a crowd!

KAUSHIK JN

For first time, Lalbagh flower show had over 8.34 lakh visitors

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This year, the Lalbagh flower show broke its own record with over 8.34 lakh people visiting the botanical garden between August 5 - August 15.

From the 8.34 lakh people who visited the show, a revenue of Rs 3.24 crore were generated. On Independence Day alone, three lakh people visited Lalbagh, generating a revenue of Rs 90 lakh. Such was the massive crowd on Independence Day that the Horticulture Department could only issue 1.5 lakh tickets and rest had to be let in for free as there was a huge rush.

As the show this year was themed after actor Dr Rajkumar and Puneeth Rajkumar, officials are of the view that it could have been the reason for the massive crowd. Another reason was that the show was back after a two-year covid hiatus.

Footfall generated over ₹3.24 crore revenue; (inset) readers sent us images of waste strewn about in the park after the event

Lalbagh Joint Director, K M Jagadeesh said, "We have not received such a huge crowd in the past. With the long weekend falling during the flower show, people had time to come. Even people from other districts and states visited the show. Since there are many Dr Rajkumar and Puneeth fans, many came to watch the themed show."

The show had about 60 varieties of native flowers and even flowers that were brought from Ooty and different nations. More than a lakh Dutch rose stems and chrysanthemums were used to make the make the statue of Puneeth Rajkumar Shakti Dhama. The Horticulture Department had to ensure that there was no single-use plastic; packaged drinking water was not allowed while plastic bottles of cool drinks were not allowed too.

Hits and misses

Despite the waste being managed well by the department during the initial few days of the flower show and even the NGO Saahas spreading awareness about not littering, during the weekend and on Independence Day specifically, there was a lot of waste in the surroundings of the park.

People who went for their morning walks on Tuesday complained that they happened to notice a lot of plastic litter waste. "The Horticulture Department should get the mess cleared. It is sad to see how people are not concerned about keeping our huge lung space clean. I saw huge garbage inside the gate and outside," said a resident of Jayanagar.

Saved: 400 kg textile waste

Cheela Mela, organised by Saahas, was an initiative aimed at promoting use of cloth bags, and was a huge hit at the flower show. Over 1,000 cloth bags were made at the stall from old clothes brought by the public. About 400 kg of textile waste was saved this way. The initiative is in partnership with the GIZ and Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA) facility-funded project Circular Waste Solutions.

Starting up? Happy news for entrepreneurs

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The State Bank of India (SBI) on Tuesday opened India's first dedicated banking branch for start-ups, a move that is being hailed by entrepreneurs.

The venture was started by SBI in association with Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM). This will now enable start-ups to access banking facilities, funding, and credit facilities. Rs 2 crore of collateral-free financial assistance will also be given to start-up entrepreneurs. "This branch will not merely provide the credits but will also cater to requirements related to investment banking, Forex, and capital markets.

This banking setup will also connect these start-ups from various Alternative Investment Fund (AIF), Venture Capital Fund (VCF), and Private Equity (PE) funds for mutual benefits. It will also facilitate SBI's investment in funds," said Nand Kishore, Chief General Manager, State Bank of India, Bengaluru circle.

The branch was inaugurated in Koramangala on Tuesday

The branch in Koramangala was inaugurated by Dinesh Kumar Khara, the Chairman of SBI. "All the services that would be required by any start-up are available under a single roof here," he said. Koramangala was also strategically chosen as it is considered to be the start-up hub of Bengaluru, with nearly 22 unicorns, said Meena Nagaraj, Managing Director, KDEM.

"Karnataka government has funded 739 start-ups from across various sectors as of today under the 'Elevate' program. In 2022, we have chosen 239 start-ups from over 1,500 applications out of which, 75 are women-led start-ups," Nagaraj added.

BV Naidu, the chairman of KDEM, said that the city is home to more than 20,000 start-ups and they contribute significantly to the growing economy.

Entrepreneurs are excited

One such entrepreneur, Arvind Jauhar, who is developing a new online platform called Googly Green Exchanges, feels that the SBI branch for start-ups would be a great help for entrepreneurs to access credit.

"Most tech companies do not have many assets; it is also difficult for them to get loans as they don't give out loans on basis of intellectual properties. So, if there is a separate branch that understands the challenges faced by start-ups, it would definitely benefit people," Jauhar said. The branch would also enable start-ups to avail end-to-end financial & advisory services.

DIVERSIONARY TACTIC

Work in progress throws North-West B'luru off gear

As if closure of Peenya and MES flyover were not enough, now Yeshwanthpur Road will be shut for a month

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Traffic pile up on CV Raman Avenue near Sadashivanagar police station; traffic blocks on Pipeline Road (below)

Traffic in north-western Bengaluru is just all over the place - First, it was the closure of the Peenya flyover that had created a traffic mess. This was followed by the closure of the MES flyover and now the Yeshwanthpur Road is to be closed for a month for white-topping works. As these are crucial roads that connect Bengaluru to more than 25 districts in Karnataka, motorists across Bengaluru are in a right mess.

On Tuesday, traffic from Yeshwanthpur railway station till Sadashivanagar police station was chock-a-block. A traffic police personnel posted on duty near Yeshwanthpur said, "With the closure of the MES flyover, the Outer Ring Road is closed at Goraguntepalya. So, all the vehicles coming from ORR (Magadi and Mysuru road sides) and Nelamangala side had to travel to Hebbal via Mehkri Circle. Drains are being repaired at Yeshwanthpur and the road is already narrow so the traffic pile up continued for most parts of the day. We had witnessed a similar traffic jam on Saturday which was the first day of the MES flyover closure.

We could breathe a bit on Sunday and Monday due to the holiday. However, today, it is back to square one and we are really finding it tough to manage traffic." With crawling traffic many were reporting late to their destinations as there were no alternative roads and people had no respite from traffic jams.

"We have noticed that the white topping works have been delayed at many places. Now, for example, I have to travel from IISc to Yeshwanthpur Circle which is just a kilometre away

Meanwhile, repair works continue at MES flyover. BBMP a few years back asphalted the entire stretch. However, the flyover has now exposed the substandard quality of work. According to traffic experts any road (blacktopped) should have a life of three to five years, while white-topped roads should ideally have a life of 10-plus years; without any scope for repairs. But at the MES road flyover, there is a case of use of sub-standard materials without any quality control, experts said. They said that it looks like the mandatory construction procedures like heating bitumen, compacting each layer and non-maintenance of optimum temperature has resulted in the poor condition of the flyover.

City police, however, said that the Yeshwanthpur Road (from BHEL junction to Yeshwanthpur police station) will be shut for traffic for a month due to white topping works. Hence vehicles from Malleswaram 18th Cross will now have to take the Margosa Road till Malleswaram 15th Cross and then take the right turn towards Malleswaram 8th main to reach Yeshwanthpur Circle. Vehicles coming from Mehkri Circle need to travel via Kuvempu Circle-BEL Circle. Vehicles coming from Mehkri Circle to Yeshwanthpur have to go via Malleswaram 8th Main to reach Yeshwanthpur.

Motorists are requesting the BBMP to quickly complete the white-topping works. "We have noticed that the white topping works have been delayed at many places. Now, for example, I have to travel from IISc to Yeshwanthpur Circle which is just a kilometre away. However, now as per the new route plan, I have to take a detour of five kilometres to reach Yeshwanthpur," said a person who works in IISc.

HC suspects private interests in PILs on BBMP election

A single-judge Bench of the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday said there are strong hints of private interests in a bunch of public interest litigations (PILs) that came up for hearing regarding the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) elections.

The court said it cannot stop the process of elections to the BBMP, and if there were any problems in the wards delimitation, they could be rectified by the time of the next elections.

The petitioners sought an interim order that the High Court rejected.

The number of wards in the civic body has been increased from the existing 198 to 243. The government has also issued the ward reservation list on August 4.

The petitions filed by several former BBMP corporators and others came up for hearing before Justice Hemant Chandangoudar.

The judge quipped that there are hints of private interests rather than public interest in the PILs. The petitions sought for redoing the delimitation of certain wards.

The PILs had challenged the delimitation, claiming they were done unscientifically and without regard for proper boundaries.

The Election Commission (EC) on Tuesday filed objections to more than half a dozen PILs filed on the issue. The petitions were previously heard on August 10.

The EC, in its statement of objections, called for the petitions to be dismissed as they were "a blatantly illegal and untenable attempt to delay the elections to the BBMP though the term of the elected councilors expired on September 10, 2020."

Any direction to re-do the delimitation exercise would be against the Supreme Court directives, it has said. **PTI**

Vegetableism: Only rich can afford veggies

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After heavy rainfall, Bengalureans are now feeling the pinch of price rise. Most vegetable prices have hit the roof.

According to Bengaluru vegetable market prices, hyacinth beans (avarekayi) is now being sold at Rs 60 per kilogram, ivy gourd at Rs 70, cluster beans Rs 70, Bajji Mirchi at Rs 80, carrot Rs 100, capsicum Rs 80, Green Chilli Rs 90, okra Rs 60, beans Rs 100-Rs 130 and three lemons at Rs 20. Among the vegetables, only tomato and onion are still at Rs 20 a kg.

Suresh G, a vegetable seller, said, "The supply has been affected due to rainfall in many areas. Many farmers say that the crops are washed away in the rainfall at their farm lands and so the prices have gone up. Now, with festival season coming up, we expect the prices to remain high in the coming days as well."

Meanwhile, monthly grocery budget is slowly inching up.

Though the Centre had recently imposed GST on select items, surprisingly, even those items which were not under GST ambit have seen a rise in recent times. Pigeon lentil (tur dal)which is one of the must ingredients for sambar and rasam has seen a price rise. For example, a kg of the lentil that used to be sold at Rs 100 now costs Rs 115. Similarly, split black lentils (urad dal) has seen a price appreciation from Rs 110 to Rs 120.

Sukumar S, a wholesale grocery dealer, said, "This year, there is heavy rainfall in tur and urad growing areas. So, there is a price rise. We are of the belief that the prices may still go further up as we will be moving into a festive season for the next two months. The next two to three months are also considered as auspicious months where a number of marriages and other family functions are held. This would increase the demand so we expect the prices to go up further."

Traders say that the prices of wheat have also gone up slightly. Prashanth Poojary, who runs a supermarket, said, "Wheat price has gone up to Rs 3 a kg. As wheat prices increase, there will be an increase in price of flour as well as sooji which also has seen a revision of two to three rupees per kilogram. Sugar has seen a modest jump of Re 1 a kg. We are also seeing a constant increase in prices of certain brands of toothpastes where the price rise is as high as 20 to 25 pc and another 25 to 30 pc rise in soaps and detergents. Despite high prices, the edible oil prices are softening. A litre of sunflower oil used to cost Rs 185 two weeks back. Last week, the price reduced to Rs 170 and now it has come down to Rs 165 a litre. ``

26-kg rice packets

Recently, five per cent of GST was imposed on 25-kg rice packets. It was sold at Rs 1,000 and was revised to Rs 1,050. New rates were imposed on July 18 and the new prices were increased from July 19. However, after a week, the prices were rolled back as the rice mills started selling 26-kg rice packets which didn't attract the five per cent GST.

Half-hearted plans sink Subbaraya Lake's bund

Lake activists say lack of drainage before bund construction has caused seepage; it is reportedly 40 per cent under water at present

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Subbaraya Lake, which is located in IDBI Layout, Gottigere, is currently being rejuvenated by the BBMP; this is the state of the lake bund, two parts of which have already sunk in due to water accumulation

Subbaraya Lake, located at IDBI Layout in Gottigere, which is over an acre, used to be home to many migratory birds. However, the lake has now been contaminated. It is being rejuvenated by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

While the work is in progress, some lake activists were surprised to have noticed that a part of the lake bund had sunk in.

People had complained about fish dying in the past. Even the bird's habitat had reduced to a great extent. There is a foul smell emanating from the lake due to sewage. Mosquito breeding is also a regular affair, causing health issues in nearby residents.

The bund of the lake, a raised area of land that was made to keep the water in, is an important feature. Activists pointed out that even before making a drainage channel, the construction of the lake bund was taken up and the water accumulated has been seeping into the bund. Apart from the seepage, two parts of the lake bund have sunk in.

Raghvendra B Pachhapur, a lake activist, said, "Subbaraya lake is placed in a lower gradient compared to the surrounding area from one side. Naturally all the rain water flows towards the lake. Temporary drainages should have been constructed before taking up the bund. BBMP has gone ahead with the construction of the bund, but water has accumulated and is seeping into it. When I visited two days back, I was shocked to notice that a part of the bund had sunk in two areas. 40 per cent of the bund has sunk."

He also said that the lake is filled with untreated water and the BBMP should immediately check the bund's strength and make course corrections so that it is strengthened. At the same time, he said that the body should plan for a drainage system to take in all the water from the area.

The Action Aid Association group stressed on the need of harnessing rainwater.

For the Doddakallasandra Lake, residents continuously followed up with the authorities, made a plan, and carried out rain water harnessing from different channels going through the rain drains. This has helped in keeping the quality of water at the lake better.

> **"Temporary drainages should have been constructed by the BBMP before taking up the bund**
> – Pachhapur, lake activist

"Most of the lakes are in a deplorable condition. They come under the category of D and can get to an E soon, which is worse. To maintain the quality ideal for fisheries, we need to carry out rainwater harnessing and bring up sewage treatment plants near the lakes. The water quality in Doddakallasandra Lake has been doing well in the last seven months after its rejuvenation. Similarly, the rain water harnessing technique should be taken up in Subbaraya Lake as well," said Pachapur.

The activist added that the public needs to be involved in lake rejuvenation processes.

"I was keen to work with BBMP for Subbaraya Lake's rejuvenation. To even get the lake design I had to apply for an RTI application. There is hesitation among BBMP engineers to involve outsiders. Every lake rejuvenation should involve locals. Their suggestions should be heard", he said, adding that the agency should place the Lake DPR (Detailed project report) in a public domain.

Residents turn to plogging for a cleaner Richards Town

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Garbage collected by the residents of Richards Town on Independence Day

The residents of Richards Town celebrated Independence Day a little differently on Monday. After hoisting the National Flag, they embraced plogging to remove garbage in their locality.

With their initiative yielding success, they have decided to encourage ploggers in future.

Monisha Lobo, Committee Member, Richards Town Residents Association, told BM, "Littering is going unchecked. We wanted a solution that could bring the entire community together and give every resident the opportunity to act, and be a part of the solution. For any movement to succeed, your community has to become a part of it."

She said that over 50 residents from all age groups came forward to make the neighbourhood a cleaner place.

"We plan to initiate such events on a regular basis and will actively support residents who want to plog regularly. We worked with the BBMP to segregate the garbage collected before it was sent to the dry waste facility," she added.

Describing plogging as a great initiative by Richards Town Residents Association to launch on the 75th Independence Day, Ahmedali, past president, Richards Town Residents Association has said that it was so heartening to see so many people, young and old, wearing their gloves and picking up litter. Even senior citizens can do it with a hook attached to a stick, he said, adding that the initiative will also embarrass those who throw garbage on the roads. "Although tough for me at my age and with weak knees, I am committed to doing it as I walk around the roads of Richards Town," he said.

Sangita Unni, a resident, said she considers it a duty of people, including herself, to remove garbage on the road.

"It is an easy task. I want to tell other residents to remove as much waste as possible from the road if we want to live in a clean place," she said, lauding the first-of-its-kind drive in the area.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Where's the assistance?

Chunchaghatta Lake

Despite complaints being made on the Sahaaya app, trash is still lying around in the Chunchaghatta Lake premises.

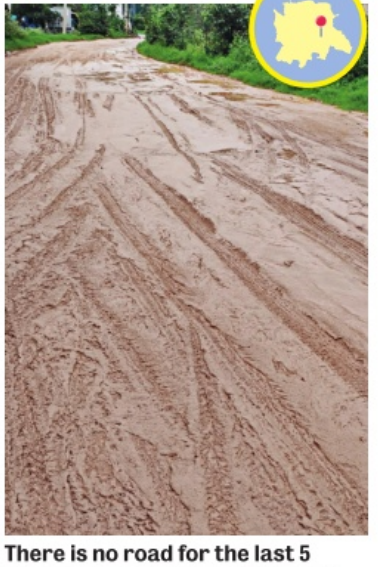
Abandoned BBMP truck

Assaye Road

A BBMP garbage mini truck has been abandoned on a footpath in Assaye Road for the last 2 years.

Trail, not road

Panathur



There is no road for the last 5 years at Bhoganahalli, Panathur.

Few rolling up their sleeves for booster dose

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The rate of Covid-19 booster shots in the city have not picked up even after the state government made them free in all government health institutes and PHCs in a bid to ramp up numbers.

While the free boosters for all above 18 years of age were rolled out on July 15, according to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's Health Department, only around 2.7 per cent of the city's population has rolled up its sleeves for the dose.

The Covid-19 booster dose was made available for the adult population on April 11 and was made free from July 15. While 9.07 individuals took the booster shots between April and July 15, only around 2.5 lakh got the jab after it was made free of charge.

Overall, barely 12 per cent of the city's population has taken the booster dose so far.

Experts say the poor response to precautionary doses is driven by a notion that the pandemic is waning.

"As the effect of the virus has become milder, fewer and fewer people are now worried about catching it. However, all eligible individuals should take the booster dose, especially when the number of active cases has been touching the one-thousand mark on a daily basis. We should not let our guards down," said a senior doctor at a government hospital in the city.

When it comes to the precautionary dose taken by those above 60 years of age, the coverage is not impressive, especially after Palike's announcement of the door-to-door scheme for senior citizens. While the city has received 100 per cent success in administering the first and second dose of the vaccine in this age group, it is yet to gain pace for the precautionary dose as only about 40 per cent of this population group has got all three doses.

Experts say that the poor response to precautionary doses is driven by a notion that the pandemic is waning

On average, the city has been reporting 1,050 cases daily over the last seven days. The average positivity rate in the last week is 6.83 per cent. While experts say there is not much to worry about or panic as the severity of Covid-19 cases has been much less compared to the past, it is highly advisable to take the shots after completing nine months of vaccination.

"After a certain time period, the antibodies in the system are greatly reduced. A booster dose should not be ignored as it will help sustain the immunity," said the healthcare expert.

Donations that save a life

Number of donation registrations picks up slowly after covid; state government in a bid to spread awareness

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This year, registrations for kidney donations were the highest at 4,353

After two years of the pandemic that saw a drop in organ donation registrations, the numbers have started to pick up slowly. Ever since the Health and Family Welfare Department (HFW) started Jeevansarthakathe (the government body that conducts organ transplants) six years ago, there have been only 443 organ donations which were carried out. The numbers saw a huge drop after the pandemic struck and the officials from the HFW Department are trying to boost organ donations this year.

In 2017, 68 donations were carried out, followed by 89 organ donations in 2018, and highest was 105 in 2019. After that, the number of donations dropped to 35 in 2020, rose to 70 in 2021 and 76 in 2022 -- a total of 443 donations.

Among the organs, the number of registrations this year for kidney donations was the highest at 4,353, liver at 1,141, heart at 91, lungs at 36, heart and lungs at 22, followed by 29 in liver and kidney and pancreas at 12, while small bowel was at 1.

Donor registry

Jeevasarthakathe (Transplant Authority of Karnataka) is a registered society since 2017. It promotes organ donation and coordinates deceased donor transplantation in Karnataka.

Jeevasarthakathe in 2022 was recognised as SOTTO Karnataka "State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation". SOTTO coordinates the deceased donor donations in Karnataka and maintains donor registry, coordinates with deceased donors at retrieval centre and recipients at respective hospitals, cross match facility, police personnel and airport authority.

According to the HFW, in India, the rate of organ donations is approximately 0.08 per million population, in comparison to Spain where it is 40 per million population. One donor can save up to eight lives. The organs which can be donated are heart, two kidneys, liver, pancreas, small intestines and lungs. The same donor can also enhance the lives of over 50 people by way of tissue donation. The tissues which can be donated are skin, bones, ligaments, heart valves and corneas.

The prevalence of chronic kidney disease is 800 per million population while ESRD is 150 – 200 people per million. Three lakh people are waiting for a kidney transplant, however only 10,000 people receive a transplant every year. Around 1,00,000 patients are waiting for a liver transplant with less than 3 per cent receiving an organ. While in India, nearly 50,000 patients need a heart transplant but only a small minority are lucky to receive an organ.

According to the HFW, in India, the rate of organ donations is approximately 0.08 per million population. One donor can save upto eight lives

Lijamol Joseph, Chief Transplant Coordinator, Jeevansarthakathe said, "2019 was a peak year for us, where the donations had increased. However just after that we got hit by the pandemic and the organ donations had stopped. Every hospital has to renew their licence every five years who are certified to carry out organ donations. We then check as to how many transplants have been carried out and only then renew their license. If the donations have been minimum, we question the hospitals. However, in 2022, with new protocols in place we are expecting it to increase again."

BM-VK campaign on organ donation

Bangalore Mirror and Vijay Karnataka has launched an awareness campaign for organ donation. The logo of the campaign was officially launched by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar on Saturday.

Raising awareness about organ donation to the general public is very beneficial, said Dr Prasanna Venkatesh (Managing Director, NU Hospitals). He added that the donor's organs will help patients who need these for life saving transplants.

Dr Anil Kumar BT, HOD and Sr Consultant – Nephrologist and Transplant Physician, BGS Gleneagles Global Hospital, said that although India holds record for second largest number of transplants being performed in the world, it lags behind several European and American countries in the donation category.

IN BRIEF

Good food, health, are symbiotic

Eating the right food is key to good health, says Bengaluru Rural MP DK Suresh. Inaugurating the fourth branch of Saptham Oil on Sunday at Nagarabhavi, Suresh said that eating the right food is key to good health. "We must use the edible oil produced through traditional wood-pressed

oil. The food these days is adulterated and traditional wood-pressed oil is best for health." Saptham Founder, CEO, Manohar Iyer said, "We will produce good quality edible oil. This will keep nutrients intact. This is a very new combination of tradition and technology." **Prakash VL**

18-yr-old killed over fest row

The KG Halli police on Tuesday arrested a gang of seven including a BCom student for allegedly stabbing an 18-year-old PU student to death over a trivial row during their college cultural fest on Friday.

The accused, Saad, pursing his 1st year BCom at a private college in HBR Layout, had participated in a dance competition at the fest. The deceased, Mohammed Arbaaz, had reportedly teased him during the show which irked Saad, the police said.

The next day, Saad, accompanied by his friends, confronted Arbaaz and his friends and a heated argument ensued between the two groups outside the college.

In the melee, the accused stabbed Arbaaz and his friend Siraj and fled the scene. Profusely bleeding, Arbaaz and Siraj were rushed to a private hospital where he was declared brought dead, while Siraj is said to be recovering.

Based on the complaint, the police have registered a case of murder and attempt to murder and tracked down the accused Saad and six of his associates. **BMB**

Speed breaker facelift

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We have been receiving suggestions and recommendations on painting of humps and rumble strips. The contract worth Rs 320.68 lakh is to repaint humps and rumble strips, junction markings and other works pertaining to the entire city," the engineer told BM.

Meanwhile, traffic expert professor MN Sreehari questioned the BBMP's decision to paint road humps and rumble strips without fixing the perennial problem of potholes. "Bengaluru Traffic Police are not engineers. It is the responsibility of the engineers at BBMP's traffic engineering cell to educate Bengaluru Traffic Police on which is the priority and which is not. There will be no use of painting humps and rumble strips without filling potholes," said Sreehari.

However, he insisted that the BBMP must ensure the contractor uses quality paint. "The contractor shall use thermoplastic paint with glass beads which will help the motorists to notice the humps during the night," he said.

Karnataka Janashraya Auto and Taxi Drivers' Union president N Mayalagu appreciated the BBMP for taking the decision to paint all road humps. "Painting of humps will make auto or taxi drivers reduce the speed of the vehicle to cross the hump without any trouble. It has become difficult to notice the humps on the road during the night due to poor lighting," said Mayalagu.

Bharathinagar Residents' Forum president NS Ravi said he finds it difficult to travel in an auto-rickshaw due to unscientific humps and potholes. "I want the BBMP chief commissioner to focus on filling up potholes to enable people to commute on city roads without hassle," said Ravi.

Access denied in B'luru

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for persons with disabilities, most of these are taken by other vehicles as there is no surveillance or management.

Infra woes

Citizens have been complaining about the poor quality of footpaths with the footpaths broken or encroached upon. For instance, Indiranagar's 100 Feet Road has broken footpaths and a bus stop blocked by construction debris.

"Footpaths along 100 Feet Road and Jeevan Bima Nagar need intervention. The footpaths have huge gaps between slabs; how are disabled people supposed to use these? It is hard for anyone to walk here... Recently relaid footpaths have started to get holes because of the poor quality of work," Ashwin Raju, a resident of Indiranagar told BM.

The situation is similar elsewhere. Shreya K, a resident of JP Nagar, said footpaths around Konanakunte Cross metro station and nearby residential areas are in a bad condition too. "The slabs are ill-maintained, broken, and shaky. I am scared to use them; how can senior citizens or differently abled persons walk over them?" she wondered.

In crowded areas like Malleswaram, entire footpaths are encroached, forcing citizens to walk on main roads.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, KRISHNABAI SURESH MANE, W/o, Anil Khatri and residing at No.23/1, Flat No.143.A, Kms Residency, 3rd Cross, Thaverekere Main, Btm 1st Stage, Bangalore 560029 have changed my name to KRISHNA ANIL KHATRI vide affidavit dated 16.08.2022 sworn before notary B.V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I Shaikh Neha Rashid W/O, Mohammed Hussain Kadar R/o No 37 Ground Floor 1st Main Road 2nd Cross Bhuvaneshvarinagar Bangalore 560032 have changed my name to Neha Mohammed Hussain Kadar for all purposes.

WE Hussain Raniwala and Fatema Raniwala R/o G2, Burhani Park Apt, Banne - rghatta Road, Gottigere, B'luru-83 have changed our minor son name from Burhanuddin to Burhanuddin Hussain Raniwala for all purposes.

I, SATHYANANDA M.S S/o Shantharam M.S resident of No. 539/B, 2nd Cross, 2nd Pha se, Ideal Home Township, Near Cafe Coffee Day, RR Nagar, Bangalore-560098 have changed my name to ANAND .M vide affidavit dated 05.08.2022 sworn before notary B.K.R Krishnamurthy, Bangalore.

I Jeevan P B S/O, Basavaraja K R/o No 184 Anjanadri 3rd Cross Kempegowda Nagara Main Road T Dasarahalli Bangalore 560057 have changed my name to Jeevan B for all purposes.

I, RASMITA KUMARY PANDA, W/o, Hemant Kumar Tripathy residing at Flat No. 514, 'B' Block, Samaya Sonata Apartments, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore 560097 have changed my name to RASMITA TRIPATHY vide affidavit dated 10.08.2022 sworn before notary B.V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I, Ashok S/o Devichand Prem Jain R/o #39/1, Sharda Comfort, 15th cross, 11th main, Wilson Garden, Bengaluru 560030 have changed my name to ASHOK KUMAR D JAIN affidavit Dt.16/08/2022 notary K.V Mani, B'luru

I, Ansar Pasha R/o No.1436, 20th main, HSR Layout, Bengaluru 560102 have changed my 13 years old minor son name AYAAN AHMED to AYAAN ANSAR affidavit Dt.16/08/2022 notary K.V Mani, B'luru

I, Rekha w/o Ashok Kumar D Jain R/o #39/1, Sharda Comfort, 15th cross, 11th main, Wilson Garden, Bengaluru 560030 have changed my name to REKHA A JAIN affidavit Dt.16/08/2022 notary K.V Mani, B'luru

I, Ajith, S/o Ananda Shetty, R/o #180/27, Venkateshwara Layout, S.G Palya, DRC-Post, Bengaluru 560029, have changed my name to AJITH SHETTY affidavit Dt.16/08/2022 notary K.V Mani,

I, AFREEN TAJ W/o B. Mohammed Nawaz residing at No.103, 4th Cross, Sarabande palya, BSK 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560070 here by declare that my name is wrongly entered in some documents as SHABREEN TAJ but my correct name is AFREEN TAJ vide affidavit dated 16.08.2022 sworn before notary L Puttaraju, Bangalore.

I Syed Manazir Hussain Basheer Ahmed S/O, Basheer Ahmed R/o Old No 72/1 New No 72/3 3rd Cross 1st Main Road Chamrajpet Bangalore-560018. have changed my name to Syed Manazir Hussain

I Reshma Bano W/O, Waheed Ahmed R/o No.65, 7th Cross, New Layout, Someshwar Nagar, Jayanagar 1st Block, Bangalore - 560011 have changed my name to Reshma Banu for all purposes.

I Rebecca Anne Kevin Rozario W/O, Gary Vernon Grubb R/o #86 Suraj Mansion, Flat 102, 1st Floor, 2 Main, Maithri Layout, Whitefield, Bangalore - 560066 have changed my name to Rebecca Grubb

I Suchishmitha Kashi W/O, Rakshith Kota Anil Kumar R/o No 98/40, 30th Cross, 7th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560070, have changed my name to Suchishmitha Rakshith Kota

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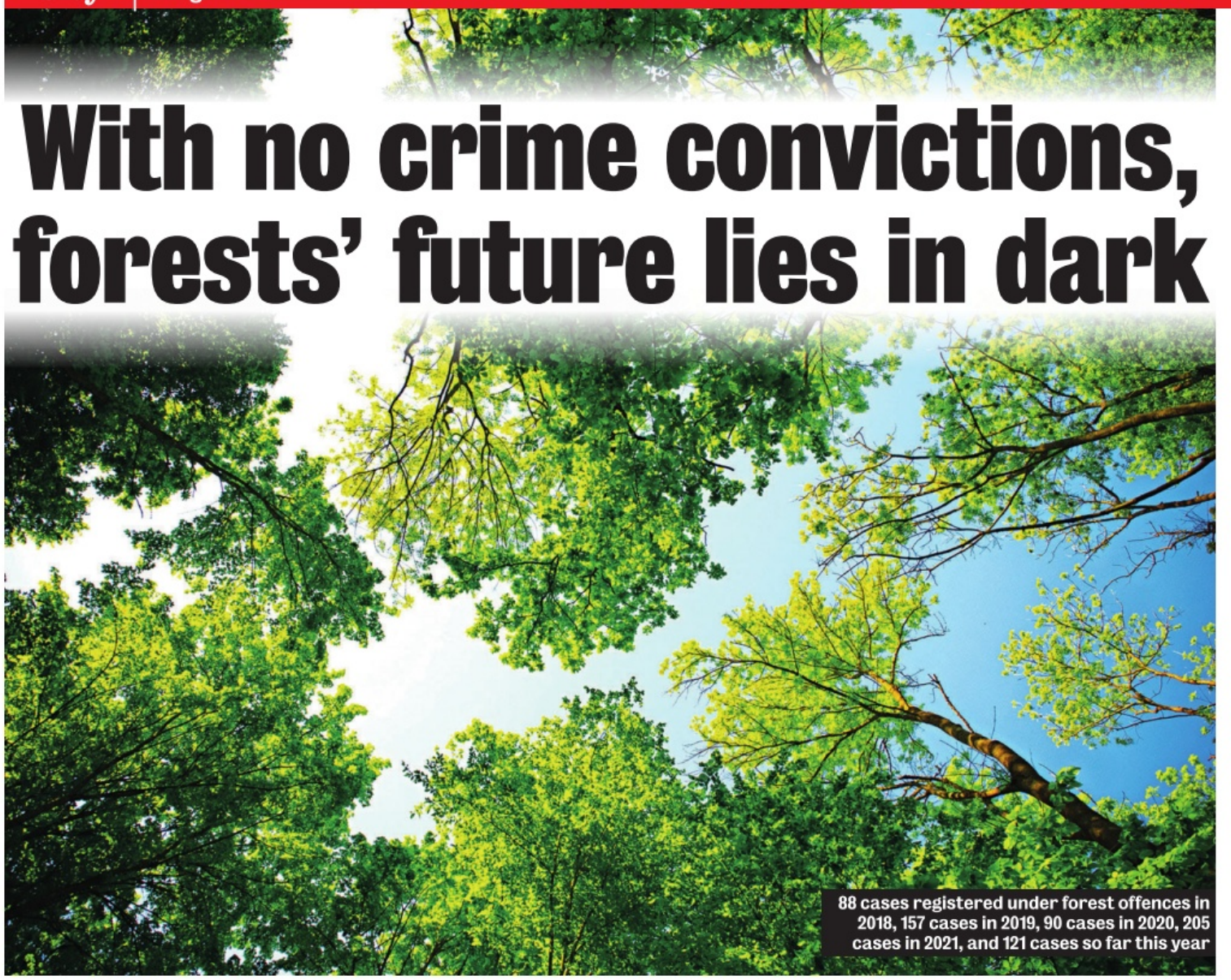
With no crime convictions, forests' future lies in dark



88 cases registered under forest offences in 2018, 157 cases in 2019, 90 cases in 2020, 205 cases in 2021, and 121 cases so far this year

121 cases filed this year with zero convictions; experts blame incompetence, lack of manpower

Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Over the last five years, Karnataka Forest Department has logged a few hundred cases under various forest offences, albeit with a zero conviction rate. While as many as 661 forest offence cases were between 2018 and 2022, the number of convictions has remained nil.

As per the data of the legal cell of the department, while the number of cases filed under the forest offence has been on the rise, the conviction rate is a cause of concern. The department registered 88 cases under forest offence in 2018, 157 cases in 2019, 90 cases in 2020, and 205 cases in 2021 and has already filed 121 cases this year.

Experts say the conviction is possible only if the offences are proven. Many forest officials are not sure about how to file a case and go about prosecution. This results in poor and shoddy paperwork, leading to zero conviction.

"The officials are not well versed with the process of law enforcement. They do not know the procedure and how to go about the paperwork in case of forest or wildlife offence. They are not even trained in arresting people. Theoretically, many senior officials might know the rules and acts under various laws, however, these officials are mostly sitting in offices. The laws are enforced on-ground, mostly by forest guards," said Sharat Babu, a wildlife activist.

While the Indian Forest Act of 1972 underwent some amendments a few years ago to make it easier for policemen to prevent crimes against forests and ensure convictions, experts say, even police officials are unaware of the nitty gritty.

According to Ramesh Belagere, wildlife activist, Foundation for Ecology and Education Development, although police officials are brought in to solve cases related to forest or wildlife offences, even they are ignorant.

"We have had police officials reaching out to us to get an antler certified as a tusk. They cannot identify animal or plant species. We have had cases of officials bringing in flying squirrels as palm squirrels. While flying squirrel is a Schedule I animal, palm squirrel is a schedule V animal. How can one expect such officials to book forest offence cases and ensure conviction?" questioned Belagere.

Conservationists opine that recognising endangered or critically endangered species is the first vital step in filing a case and ensuring conviction, which most on-ground workers do not know.

Experts point out that the number of cases filed for offences are far too low

"There are around 34 different species of trees that are protected under the Karnataka Forest Act. In case of a tree felling offence, the department can slap multiple sections and get the punishment period incremented. However, they are mostly unaware of the rules. With a such low level of knowledge and information among the officers enforcing the law, the conviction rate is bound to be zero," said a wildlife conservationist.

Underreported cases

Experts and conservationists point out that while on the one hand, the conviction rate is zero, on the other the number of cases filed under forest offences is far too low.

"661 cases in five years is a low number. The department should conduct formal training programs for its officials whereby they are given vital information such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) list and species of plants that are protected under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972. They should be told about the most common sections that can be used to register forest offence cases and get the offenders convicted," said wildlife activist Babu.

Lack of manpower and strategy behind the poor conviction

According to a forest department official, lack of training, coupled with the shortage of manpower and absence of a history sheeters list are some of the reasons that have led to zero conviction.

"While the forest department staff are professional and well-versed with the forest and wildlife acts, dealing with these cases on the ground requires more than the knowledge of the acts and rules. To add to that, the department is massively short of staff. Moreover, we do not follow any deterrent strategies. For instance, having a history sheeters list would surely come in handy," said the official.

Officials say while the department conducts workshops and training sessions on tips and tricks to deal with forest and wildlife offences for its ground officials frequently, the sheer magnitude of the area that is expected to be manned is huge.

> **"With a low level of knowledge among the officers enforcing the law, the conviction rate is bound to be zero** –Wildlife conservationist

"While the police department has the job of detecting crime, filing cases, and securing convictions, the forest department is also responsible for and involved in various other developmental activities. For us, maintaining relationships with villagers and locals matters too. We are also falling short of technological aids. Having said that, we are working towards improving the conviction rate," said a senior forest department official.

IN BRIEF

Drunk driving: BBMP official's driver in dock

The Byatarayanapura traffic police on Monday booked the driver of a senior official of the BBMP for being involved in a minor accident in an inebriated state.

The accused Shivashankar was returning home after reportedly dropping the officer home late in the night when the accident occurred at RR Nagar gate.

The accused is said to have been driving rashly under alcohol's influence when his car collided with another car. The police seized the car and slapped a fine on Tuesday. —PTI

Three killed in road accident

Three people were killed on Tuesday in a road accident in Karnataka's Raichur district.

The deceased have been identified as Basavaraj Mosali, Bheemavva Mosali and eight-year-old Naresh, all residents of Kallur village in Siriwara taluk.

According to the police, the victims were travelling on a bike to the village from Kurdi to attend a funeral of a distant relative.

The bike was hit by a truck and due to the impact, all three died on the spot.The driver of the truck is absconding. —IANS

CM supports minister after 'no functioning govt' remark

In an embarrassment to the ruling BJP government in Karnataka, the audio recording of a conversation of a cabinet minister has gone viral, where he says that the state is functioning without a government and is instead being stage-managed.

However, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday attempted to downplay the issue by stating that the statement was given in a different context.

The audio clip containing the alleged conversation of Law Minister JC Madhuswamy was first highlighted by Congress while taking jibes at the BJP government on social media. Later, Horticulture Minister N Munirathna asked him to submit his resignation. Bommai said that there is no need for anyone to give a wrong picture of the statement made by Madhuswamy. "The minister has stated it in a different context," the Chief Minister added.

"I have spoken to him but there is no need for the wrong portrayal. It was spoken three months ago in a programme related to the cooperative department. Everything is fine within the government," Bommai said. The audio clip contains the alleged conversation between Madhuswamy and social worker Bhaskar where the latter talks about cooperative bank officials demanding Rs 1,300 for renewing the Rs 50,000 loan availed by farmers. —IANS

7 jawans killed as bus falls into gorge

Bus carrying 37 ITBP personnel, 2 cops was on its way to police control room from Amarnath Yatra duty in J&K

#Srinagar

Seven ITBP jawans died and 32 security personnel were injured when the bus in which they were returning from Amarnath Yatra duty fell into a deep gorge in the Pahalgam area of Jammu and Kashmir, a police official said. The bus, carrying 37 Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) personnel and two policemen, was on its way to the police control room here from Chandanwari, he said.

While two ITBP personnel died on the spot, five others succumbed to their injuries later, the officials said. The condition of eight of the injured is stated to be critical. They have been evacuated to Srinagar for specialised treatment. The remaining injured are being treated at the Anantnag district hospital.

Earlier, the official had said that one of the seven deceased was a policeman. However, later he said, "It was a case of mistaken identity. The two policemen are undergoing treatment." President Droupadi Murmu and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar condoled the loss of lives. "The tragic loss of precious lives of ITBP personnel in the unfortunate accident at Anantnag, J&K fills me with sadness. My heartfelt condolences for the bereaved families. I pray for speedy recovery of the injured," Murmu tweeted.

"Saddened by the loss of lives of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) personnel in a bus accident ... My thoughts are with the bereaved families in this hour of grief. My prayers for the speedy recovery of the injured," a tweet by the Vice President's Secretariat quoted Dhakhar as saying. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said all possible assistance is being provided to the injured security personnel.

"Deeply anguished by the bus accident near Chandanwari in which we have lost our brave ITBP personnel. My condolences to the bereaved families and prayers for the speedy recovery of the injured," Sinha tweeted. Senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, and National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah also took to Twitter to express their condolences.

The news of a bus carrying ITBP personnel falling into a gorge in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir is very saddening, Gandhi said in a tweet in Hindi. "I wish the injured jawans a speedy recovery and peace to the souls of the martyred and express my deepest condolences to the bereaved families," he said. – PTI

Rescue operations are underway near the wrecked remains of a civilian bus that rolled down into a roadside riverbed, in Pahalgam on Tuesday

Regulating speeches amounts to wild-goose chase: AAP tells SC

#New Delhi

Targeting and regulating electoral speeches will amount to "nothing more than a wild-goose chase" if the concerns are over fiscal deficit due to the promises of freebies made during polls by political parties, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) told the Supreme Court on Tuesday.

The top court, which is mulling setting up an expert panel to brainstorm the issue of freebies announced during elections, was told by the AAP that the curb on electoral speeches, without legislative backing, would be violative of the fundamental right of freedom of speech and expression and the proposed committee may not "encompass the regulation, let alone prohibition, of certain types of electoral speech."

"Such a restriction or prohibition would amount to a curtailment of the freedom of speech guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) without the backing of legislative sanction," the party has said in its additional submissions.

The AAP said the electoral promises while serving an important democratic function, are completely inappropriate proxies for regulating actual fiscal outgo.

"Trying to address issues of fiscal deficit by attacking electoral speech will both hurt the democratic quality of elections by prohibiting parties from communicating their ideological stances on welfare, while also making no progress in achieving fiscal responsibility," it said.

A bench headed by Chief Justice NV Ramana, which has sought suggestions from all the stakeholders on the issue of setting up the panel to discuss and suggest measures on irrational freebies, is scheduled to hear the PIL on Wednesday. – PTI

Free food grain distribution at a school in Vishwas Nagar

New indigenous military equipment for the Army

#New Delhi

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday handed over to the Army a wide range of indigenous military equipment including unmanned aerial systems and quick reaction fighting vehicles to crank up its combat capabilities in eastern Ladakh in the backdrop of the prolonged border face-off with China.

The other key equipment that the Army received included surveillance hardware, patrolling boats, 'Future Infantry Soldier as a System', a new anti-personnel mine 'Nipun', infantry protected mobility vehicles, rugged and automatic communication system, upgraded sights system for tanks and advanced thermal imagers.

This was part of the government's efforts to enhance the combat readiness of the armed forces in view of the military standoff with Chinese troops in several friction points for over two years. The new boats equipped with advanced surveillance gadgets and other equipment are being deployed to keep a vigil over the Pangong Tso lake in eastern Ladakh. – PTI

Rajnath Singh with an Army personnel

Railways conducts test run of its longest freight train

#New Delhi

The Railways conducted a test run of the 3.5-km-long freight train, Super Vasuki, with 295 loaded wagons carrying over 27,000 tonnes of coal between Korba in Chhattisgarh in Rajnandgaon in Nagpur on August 15, as part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations. The train run by the South East Central Railway left Korba at 13:50 and took 11.20 hours to cover the distance of 267 km. This is the longest and heaviest freight train ever run by the Railways, the national transporter said, adding the train takes about four minutes to cross a station.

The amount of coal carried by Super Vasuki is enough to fire 3000 MW of power plant for one full day, officials said. This is three times the capacity of existing railway rakes (90 cars with 100 tonnes in each) which carries about 9,000 tonnes of coal in one journey. The train was formed by amalgamating five rakes of goods trains as one unit.

The Railways plans to use this arrangement (longer freight trains) more frequently, especially to transport coal in peak demand season to prevent fuel shortages of power stations, the officials said.

Earlier this year, coal shortages had pushed the country into a severe power crisis. – PTI

No offence: WHO looks for new name for monkeypox

#Geneva/London

Poxy McPoxface, TRUMP-22 or Mpox: these some of the ideas sent in by the public to the World Health Organization as it seeks a new name for monkeypox.

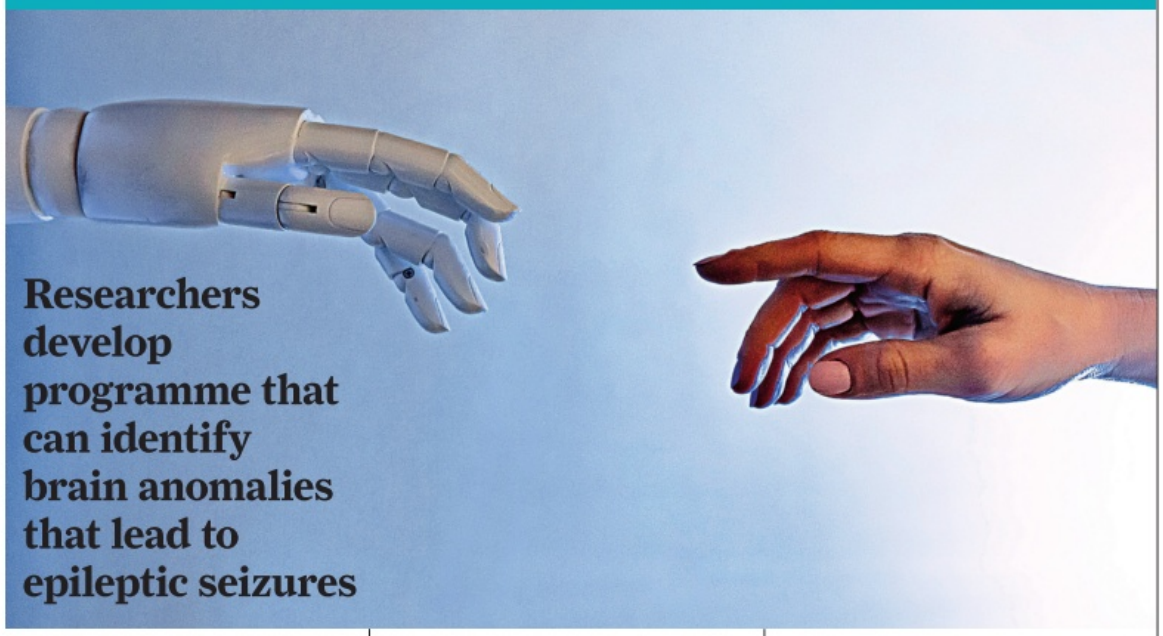
Often disease names are chosen behind closed doors by a technical committee, but the WHO has this time decided to open up the process to the public. After a slow start, dozens of submissions https://icd.who.int/dev11 have now been made from a range of contributors including academics, doctors, and a gay community activist.They range from the technical (OPOXID-22, submitted by Harvard Medical School emergency physician Jeremy Faust) to the farcical (Poxy McPoxface, submitted by Andrew Yi in an allusion to Boaty McBoatface - almost the name of a British polar research vessel after a public vote on the choice).

Pressure is growing for a new name for the disease, in part because critics say it is misleading, since monkeys are not the original animal host. Until this year, monkeypox has mainly spread only in a group of countries in west and central Africa."It's very important we find a new name for monkeypox because this is best practice not to create any offence to an ethical group, a region, a country, an animal etc," WHO spokesperson Fadela Chaib said on Tuesday.

"The WHO is very concerned by this issue and we want to find a name that is not stigmatising," she added without giving a timeline.

One of the more popular submissions so far is Mpox, submitted by Samuel Miriello, director of a men's health organization RÉZO which is already using the name in its outreach campaigns in Montreal, Canada. -Reuters

Is AI the answer?



Researchers develop programme that can identify brain anomalies that lead to epileptic seizures

A multinational research team led by UCL has developed an artificial intelligence (AI) programme that can identify minute brain anomalies that lead to epileptic seizures.

The algorithm used in the Multicentre Epilepsy Lesion Detection project (MELD), reports the locations of abnormalities in cases of drug-resistant focal cortical dysplasia (FCD), a major cause of epilepsy, was developed using more than 1,000 patient MRI scans from 22 international epilepsy centres.

Brain regions known as FCDs have evolved improperly and frequently lead to drug-resistant epilepsy. Surgery is usually used to treat it. However, finding the lesions on an MRI is a constant problem for doctors because MRI scans for FCDs can appear normal.

The scientists employed about 300,000 places throughout the brain to quantify cortical properties from the MRI scans, such as how thick or folded the cortex/brain surface was.

The system was then trained on cases that experienced radiologists had classified as either having FCD or being a healthy brain based on their patterns and attributes.

In general, the algorithm was successful in identifying the FCD in 67 per cent of instances in the cohort, according to the results, which were published in Brain (538 participants).

Radiologists had previously been unable to uncover the abnormalities in 178 of the patients based on their MRI results; however, the MELD algorithm was able to detect the FCD in 63 per cent of these cases.

This is crucial because, if doctors can identify the anomaly in the brain scan, surgery to remove it could result in a recovery.

Mathilde Ripart, a co-first author from the UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health, stated, "We focused on developing an AI system that was interpretable and could assist physicians in making decisions. A crucial step in that process was demonstrating to the doctors how the MELD algorithm generated its forecasts.

Dr Konrad Wagstyl, a co-senior author from the UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, added, "This algorithm might make it easier to identify these concealed lesions in epileptic children and adults, which would increase the number of patients who could potentially benefit from brain surgery to treat their condition and enhance cognitive function."

Epilepsy is a severe neurological illness that affects 1 per cent of the world's population and is marked by recurrent seizures.

The majority of epilepsy patients can be treated with pharmaceuticals, although 20-30 per cent of them do not benefit from them.

FCD is the most frequent cause in children who have had surgery to treat their epilepsy, and it is the third most frequent cause in adults.

Furthermore, FCD is the most frequent reason for epilepsy in people who have a brain anomaly that cannot be seen on an MRI scan.

Dr Hannah Spitzer, a co-first author from Helmholtz Munich, stated, "Our system automatically learns to detect lesions from thousands of patient MRI scans. It is capable of accurately identifying lesions of various sorts, forms, and sizes, including several that radiologists had previously overlooked.

Dr Sophie Adler, a co-senior author from the University College London's Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health, added, "We believe that this technology may assist to discover abnormalities that are now being missed that cause epilepsy. In the long run, it might make it possible for more epilepsy patients to undergo possibly curative brain surgery.

This FCD detection study makes use of the biggest MRI cohort of FCDs to date, making it capable of identifying all FCD subtypes.

Study limitations

The 22 hospitals involved in the study used various MRI scanners from around the world, making the algorithm more robust but also perhaps affecting its sensitivity and specificity.

—ANI

MIRRORLIGHTS

Small kidney stones, big problem

Small stones that don't seem to be creating issues are frequently left behind when kidney stones are surgically removed from patients. Leaving these asymptomatic stones behind, however, dramatically raises the likelihood of a patient experiencing a relapse in the five years that follow, according to a recent randomised controlled research.

The findings of the research were published in the journal 'New England Journal of Medicine'.

Generally, stones under 6mm in diameter that are not a procedure's primary target are not removed but monitored because "secondary" stones have high rates of successful passage if they move into the ureter, said lead author Dr Mathew Sorensen, a urologist at the University of Washington School of Medicine.

"Before this study, the clinical views were pretty mixed on whether some of these stones should be treated," he said. "Most clinicians would decide, based on the size of the stone, whether it hit the bar for treatment, and if it did not, you would often ignore the little stones."

The investigators studied 75 patients who were treated at multiple institutions over a span from 2015 to 2021.

About half of the patients had only their large primary stone treated, while the others had primary and secondary stones removed.

Relapse was defined as having to go to the emergency room or undergo an additional procedure due to a recurrence or if a follow-up CT scan showed that the secondary stones grew.

Removal of the secondary stones reduced the relapse rate by 82 per cent, the researchers found, leading the authors to recommend that smaller stones should not be left behind.

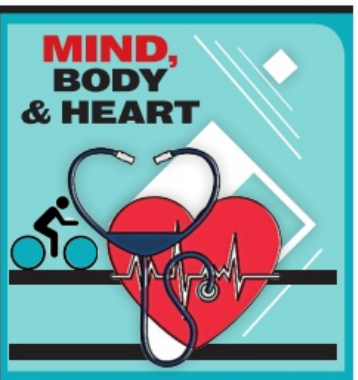
"Results of our trial support the removal of small asymptomatic renal stones at the time of surgery with a larger stone," their paper concluded.

The authors noted that while the removal of smaller stones could add to the procedure's duration and cost, those costs would likely be less than those associated with a patient's repeat procedure or visit to the emergency room.

Some patients in the study visited the emergency department multiple times and then required surgery, the report noted.

Sorensen said he would share the study results with colleagues with the hope of changing their sensibility toward smaller stones. "Leaving the stones behind risks trouble in the future," he said.

—ANI



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I wrote to you a couple of years ago after meeting a woman online when I was 70 and she was 60. I said at the time that it was fantastic, but outside of the bedroom she could be cruel and cold. I haven't stayed at her house for about a year, I still don't know any of her extended family or friends, and she hasn't met my family either.

I'm a very open person, but there are some things she won't allow me to discuss, including family and work.

I'm generous with my time and money, and recently organised us a holiday which cost me £6,000. As soon as it was booked, she became awkward and didn't get in touch unless she wanted something.

It was the holiday from hell. She'd arranged a room with two beds and told me to keep out of her bed, and then started picking on everything I did. It was like being on holiday with a stranger, walking along five feet apart.

One evening I heard her on speaker, talking to a man.

COLEEN SAYS

My opinion is, get yourself out of this relationship because she's using you. A friend of mine was in a very similar situation – she was with someone for four years, spent money on them, helped them out constantly and then this person just walked out one day with no explanation. They'd got what they wanted out of her, so they moved on. My friend was very hurt and embarrassed, and angry that she'd invested so much in this person.

Most of us at some point in life have been taken advantage of by someone – friends, acquaintances, colleagues, lovers – the important thing is to learn from the experience and move on. And don't beat yourself up for having an open heart.

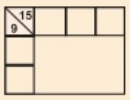
You need to build up your self-esteem and love yourself enough to be on your own.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

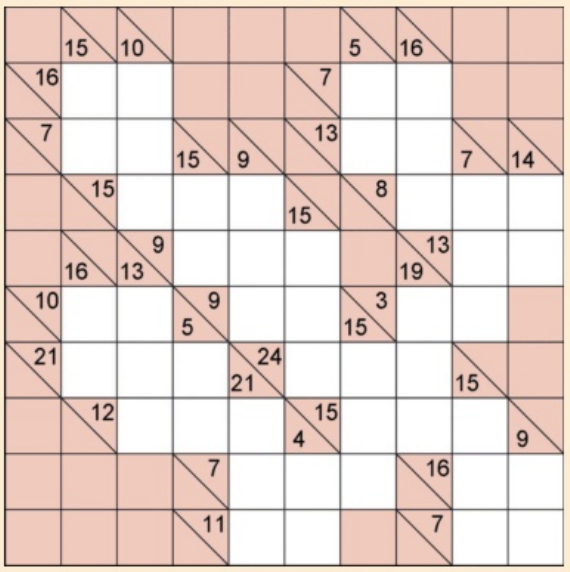
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

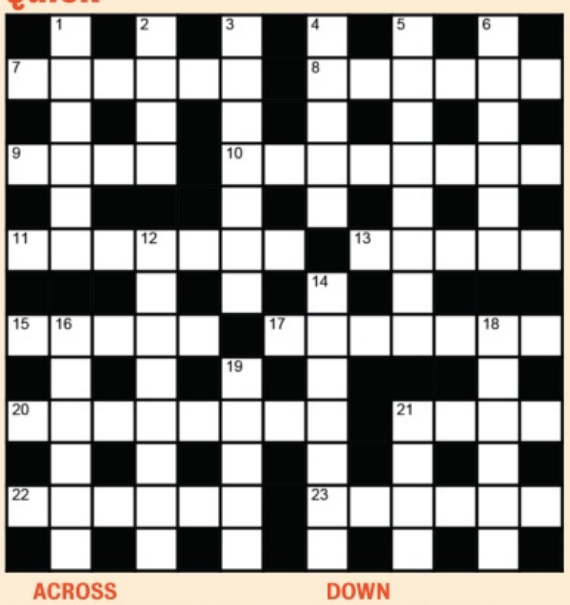
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Exhaust the limit of (3,3)
8 Karnataka city just south of Goa (6)
9 Football club Manchester ___ (4)
10 Very well! (3,5)
11 Matched or paired (7)
13 Port and city in Iraq (5)
15 Absolute (5)
17 Solicitors (7)
20 Soil; stain (8)
21 Attila and his followers? (4)
22 Type of dog (6)
23 Sharp bend (6)

DOWN

1 Gambling house (6)
2 To imitate (4)
3 Attacked from the air (7)
4 Skeletal head (5)
5 Normal; common (8)
6 Foam (6)
12 Preface (8)
14 The negative electrode (7)
16 Vibration, shaking (6)
18 Washes out in water (6)
19 Peered, was nosey (5)
21 Sci-fi/fantasy award (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: W EQUALS P

QLXB WHVWAH SWHXC QVJH NIQH IX WALXXIXD NPH UHCCIXD NPLX NPHB CV IX WALXXIXD NPH QLJJILDH.

Linemaro

So, how many have fallen for your smile?

Mindchow

Smile today, tomorrow could be worse

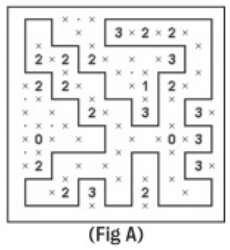
Joke of the day

I plead contemporary insanity

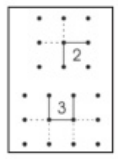
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

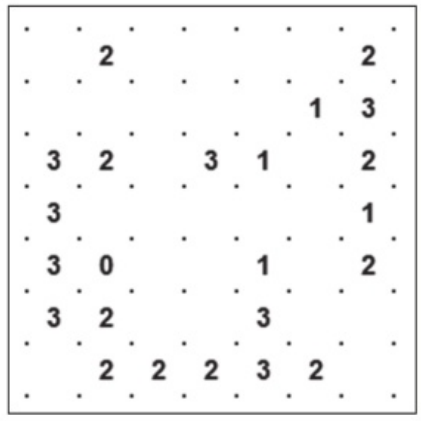


(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

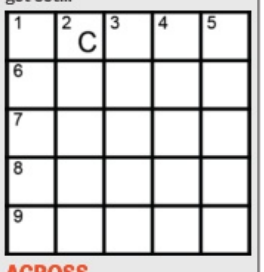


Strikeout

This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

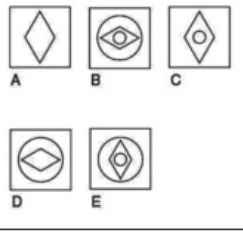
1 As cub; 6 Lunar;
7 Say Ms; 8 A rale;
9 Scowl

DOWN

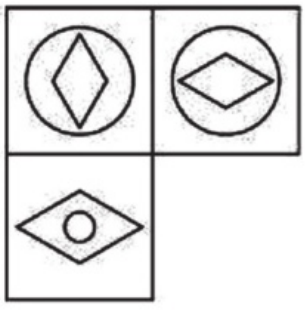
1 Camus; 2 Carol;
3 Sun we; 4 Baals;
5 Lyra's

Mensapuzzle

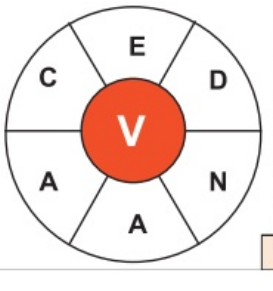
Which is the missing tile?



A B C D E



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	6				8		5	2
			7		9	1		
8	7				4			6
3				5				7
	8						1	
1				9				8
6			3				7	9
		3	9		7			
7	4		2				3	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

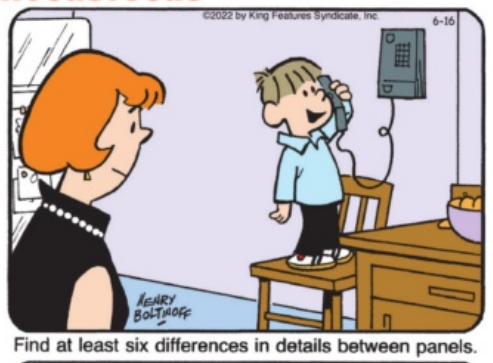
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 22
4 5 6 7

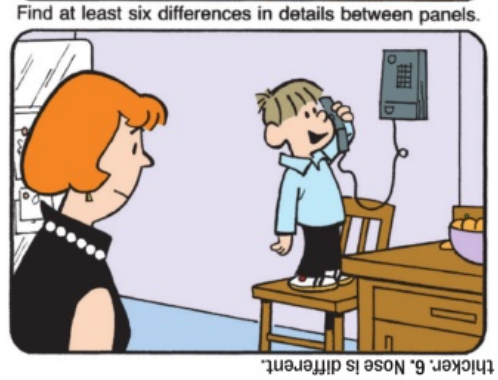
Medium = 34
3 3 7 8

Hard = 41
2 7 8 4

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



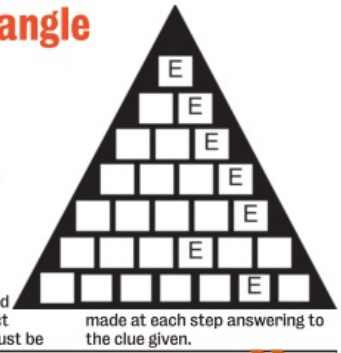
Differences: 1. Necklace is different. 2. Arm is longer. 3. Phone cord is different. 4. Hair is different. 5. Counter is thicker. 6. Nose is different.

Riddler

When do you start on red and stop on green?

Alpha triangle

1 Second vowel
2 Again, prefix
3 Have regrets
4 Tolkien letter
5 Care for
6 Turmoil
7 Small locomotive



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

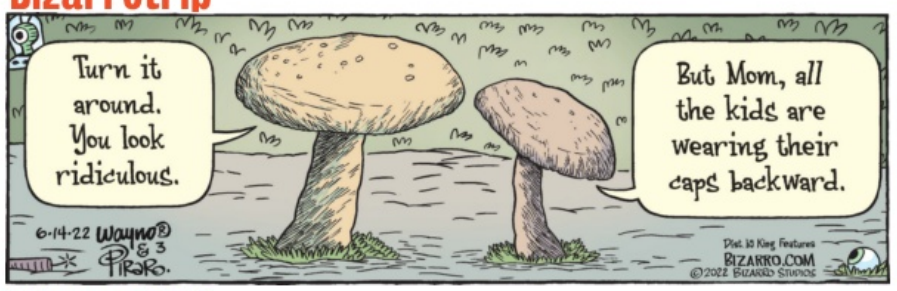
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

EVERYONE'S SAFETY DEPENDS ON YOUR GUARD DUTY TONIGHT, TANGLEFOOT...
...SO REMEMBER -NO FIRES OR LIGHTS AFTER DARK!
6-3
CASSON
DON'T WORRY...I CAN'T SLEEP WITH A LIGHT ON

Bizarrotrip

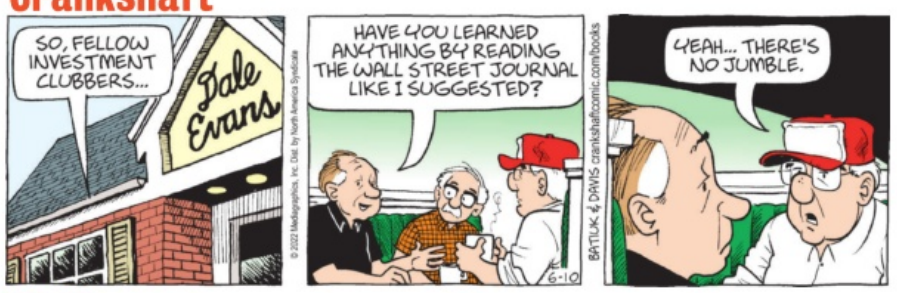

Turn it around. You look ridiculous.
But Mom, all the kids are wearing their caps backward.
6-14-22 Wayno & Piraro
Dist. by King Features
BIZARRO.COM
©2022 BIZARRO STUDIOS

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

OKAY, JUST GOTTA MAKE IT TO THE SECOND FLOOR ON THIS BUSTED FOOT OF MINE...
HOP
HOP
WHEW. I MUST HAVE BEEN HOPPING FOREVER. HOW MANY STEPS HAVE I GONE UP?
1
TWO STEPS!? AUUUGHHH!!
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


SO, FELLOW INVESTMENT CLUBBERS...
Dale Evans
HAVE YOU LEARNED ANYTHING BY READING THE WALL STREET JOURNAL LIKE I SUGGESTED?
YEAH... THERE'S NO JUMBLE.
6-10
crankshaftcomic.com/books

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today your elders will guide you. Your investments may bring you profits. Losses will convert to profits now. Your savings may boost your bank balance. You may plan to invest in your kid's future. You may also enjoy some delicious food at home. Your problems related to throat, teeth, ears or nose may be resolved now.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you are blessed by elders. Your focus towards your work may be very good. Parent's health may become good too. You are likely to spend your time with elders. You may also meet some influential person who can help you on the professional front. You may enjoy your romantic moments which may increase harmony in your domestic life.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may be spiritual. You may help needy people around you. You could also plan to donate some amount to charity. Your hard work may help you get success in difficult projects. You may feel some divine power around you which may help you in unpredictable situations. You may be attracted to the occult. Students are likely to enjoy studying in depth.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may feel dull. You may be a victim of hidden fear, which can make you scared. You are not in a situation to trust anyone. It is advised to do meditation. It may help you come out of this potential situation. With the help of elders, around late evening, you may come out of this messy state.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be busy at work. Your network may be increased, and with the help of the network, you are likely to get a big order in terms of business. You are likely to start innovation in partnerships. You may get some investments in your business, which will boost your business in the near future. Your emotional relationship with your spouse will be improved.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may find yourself in the middle of self-analysis, which will bring some confidence in you. Your focus towards your goals is now clear. You may get success to achieve your goal. Your creativity might improve and you will take interest in artefacts, movies, glamour, and real-life objects. At the end of the day, you may feel some satisfaction related to your life. our opponents are likely to be under control now.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you are likely to use your creativity to renovate your house or office. Your focus towards your goals may be good. Overworking can tire your mind, which can create anxiety, restlessness, and stress, which may affect your domestic life. Students are advised to avoid fantasy in their studies – they are advised to study with focus and dedication.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may be dissatisfied. People around you may not cooperate, but you are advised to keep patience. You are also advised to read documents carefully before signing any contracts. Making new investments in useless assets may create a bottleneck for you. Students are advised to study their subjects with patience.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may be enthusiastic. You may be more focused, which may speed up postponed projects. Your subordinates may help you to start new projects, which may bring you profits in the near future. You may expect some short trips due to family issues. Job seekers may hear good news in terms of work.

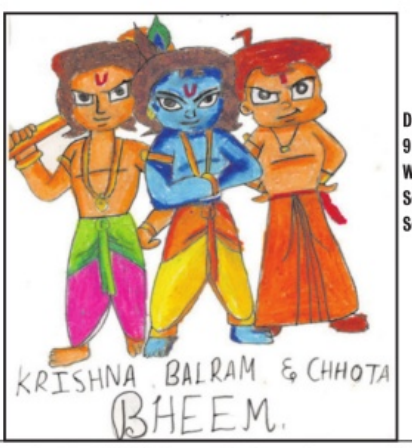
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may be busy with family issues. You can make some important decisions on the domestic front. You should avoid arguments in personal life matters. Your arrogance may affect domestic harmony. You are advised to follow your intuition before making investments in business.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today your inner strength may help you start new innovations on the work front. You are likely to get a big order in your parental business, which will grow business in the near future. New responsibilities in your job can keep you busy. Job seekers might get a good job. Understanding with your spouse may be improved, which can maintain harmony in the family life.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may feel dull and your health may not be good. You may be nervous. You may also have anxiety and restlessness. You are advised to postpone important investments in business or real estate. You are advised to avoid rash driving. You should avoid long distance travelling. You are advised to do some meditation – it will be helpful with messy situations.

KIDZONE

Medha Rao, 11 Years, Gnana Ganga Vidya Peeta, Mysore



Dhanush P, 9 Years West Lions Sevaniketan School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
=[25-16+1)/(1/9+1)
=[25+1-16]/{(1+9)/9}
=[26-16]/(10/9)
=10/(10/9)
=10×9/10
=90/10
=9

RIDDLER
While eating a watermelon

FAST FIVE

S	C	U	B	A
U	L	N	A	R
M	A	S	S	Y
A	R	E	A	L
C	O	W	L	S

BULL'S EYE
ADVANCE, cave, caved, vane, vend

STRIKE OUT

P	A	T	S	Y	E	G	O	T	R	I	P			
I	F	E	A	S	T	A	E	U						
L	E	A	K	S	A	C	C	U	S	E	D			
U	D	A	S	N										
T	O	R	P	E	D	O	M	A	I	D	A			
U	D	P	A	I	N	A	T							
R	A	S	C	A	L	O	O	D	L	E	S			
I	U	A	M	E	R	C								
R	U	E	C	S	H	A	B	I	T	A	T			
S	C	O	T	S	H	A	V	E	N					
A	M	N	E	S	I	A	E	R	A	S	E			
D	I	T	C	H	E	D	A	T	A	L	E			

QUICK

R	E	D	E	O	S									
C	O	L	L	I	E	D	O	G	L	E	G			
M	B	I	O	U	S									
B	E	S	M	I	R	C	H	H	U	N	S			
R	A	P	T	I										
U	T	E	R	L	A	W	Y	E	R	S				
N	F	L	E											
C	O	U	P	L	E	D	B	A	S	R	A			
C	I	T	Y	A	L	L	R	I	G	H	T			
S	P	R	U	D	T									
M	A	X	O	U	T	K	A	R	W	A	R			
C	C	S	S	O	L									

MENSA PUZZLE
C: looking across and down the triangles turn through 90°

QUOTE UNCODE
Many people spend more time in planning the wedding than they do in planning the marriage.

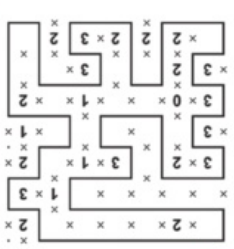
SUDOKU

9	6	4	1	3	8	7	5	2
5	3	2	7	6	9	1	8	4
8	7	1	5	2	4	3	9	6
3	9	6	8	5	1	4	2	7
4	8	5	6	7	2	9	1	3
6	1	8	3	4	5	2	7	9
2	5	3	9	8	7	6	4	1
7	4	9	2	1	6	8	3	5

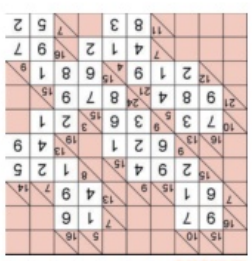
ALPHA TRIANGLE
E, Re, Rue, Nurse, Unrest, Shunter.

GO FIGURE
Easy
6 + 7 + 4 + 5 = 22
Medium
8 × 3 + 7 + 3 = 34
Hard
2 + 4 × 8 − 7 = 41

LOOP



KAKURO



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Star-struck

Dancer-actor Smrithi on experience of working with a star with no airs — Akshay

Dancer-actress Smrithi Srikanth who made her acting debut in the Akshay Kumar and Bhumi Pednekar-starrer Raksha Bandhan revealed more about her rapport with Akshay Kumar. She is playing one of the sisters in the film.

Describing her working experience with Akshay Kumar she says, "Bonding with Akshay sir was a different journey. Initially, I was nervous and concerned that we don't have to take many takes because of me. Whenever he enters the room, he has his own aura. He is very humble and grounded. He was such a sweetheart who stepped down to our level, understanding the fact that it was our first time. We bonded over food since all of us were foodies and he used to get food for us from his home. Also, we used to eat together and he used to make sure that everyone is eating and also served us sometimes. We played games also he taught us some martial art moves to us in between the shots. It was quite a fun time."

—ETimes

Salman, Pooja head to Ladakh

Looks like Salman khan and Pooja Hegde are all set to impress their audience with an entertaining music number in their highly anticipated next 'Bhaijaan'. Having said that, the duo had earlier jetted off to Leh Ladakh to shoot the same. Earlier in the night, Salman and Pooja were captured at a private airport in Mumbai.

According to a report, the reason why Salman chose Ladakh to shoot, is because he's one of those actors who prefer exotic locations in India over international locations, as he believes that India has a landscape like no other country.

According to a report in Pinkvilla, Salman has often preferred to shoot up in the North, wherein the shooting landscape varies from a barren land to snow-clad mountains and exotic jungles.

Apparently, when the team was on the lookout for a location to shoot a romantic number of Bhaijaan, he came up with the suggestion of shooting in Ladakh.

Reportedly, Salman and Pooja will be shooting at multiple spots in Leh and Ladakh for the next 4 days, before calling it a wrap on this mini schedule. After wrapping up the song shoot, the Bhaijaan team will shift its base in Mumbai. They will be shooting major sequences and action blocks of the film in Mumbai over the next 2 months will be wrapping the film shoot by the end of October.

Salman Khan will also be seen in Tiger 3 which is the third sequel of the Ek Tha Tiger franchise.

—ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

On the other hand

Dhanu Harsha is on the moon about working opposite Diganth in Edagaiye Apaghatakke Kaarana (Left hand is the cause of the accident). Dhanu is a graduate from Mount College and has already acted in Ariha, a crime thriller.

Edagaiye Apaghatakke Kaarana shines the spotlight on issues left-handers face as all tools or equipment are designed for use by right-handers.

Director Samarth B Kadkol introduced Dhanu as the leading lady of this movie on August 13, which happens to be International Left Handers Day.

"I am happy to be part of this team. I got selected after attending an audition by the director. I will play Radha, who is a left-hander and about the problems they face. Even if a person gives something to another with her left hand, it is considered inauspicious. And eating with the left hand is considered odd," Dhanu said.

She got tips on use of the left hand from the director. The film shoot is expected to commence by the end of this month. Apart from directing, Kadkol will also finance this movie along with Gurudutt Ganiga.

A date with 19.20.21

Director Mansore alias Manjunath Somakeshava Reddy, known for directing award-winning movies such as Harivu, Nathicharami, and Act 1978, is ready to present one more interesting movie with an equally interesting title – 19.20.21. The movie's poster was released on the occasion of Independence Day. The poster showcases police brutality on innocent citizens brought to police stations. 'The movie is about violation of human rights at different locations in Karnataka. Act 1978 is about incidents at one location but 19.20.21 is about the incidents that took place at four different locations. It explains how the government has violated the fundamental rights of citizens," said Mansore.

The director said shooting for the film is completed and post-production work is in progress.

"It was shot at Hubballi, Dharwad, Mangaluru and Bengaluru. If all goes well, I am planning to release this movie in November," he said.

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